

Message Text

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56

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 IO-11 ISO-00 EURE-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 /082 W

----- 127514

P R 041733Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8469

INFO AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN

USMISSION GENEVA

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR FR XF BA

SUBJECT: FRANCO-BAHRAIN COMMUNIQUE

1. FROM AN OTHERWISE ANODINE JOINT COMMUNIQUE ISSUED
MARCH 4 AT THE END OF EMIR OF BAHRAIN'S OFFICIAL VISIT,
THE PRESS (REUTERS) HAS PICKED OUT THE LANGUAGE OF THE
ARAB-ISRAELI PORTION OF THE STATEMENT AS EVIDENCE OF A
FURTHER EVOLUTION TOWARDS THE ARABS IN FRANCE'S POSITION.
THE SPOTLIGHTED PHRASEOLOGY SAYS A MIDEAST SETTLEMENT
"SHOULD PERMIT THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE TO FULFILL THEIR
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ASPIRATIONS AND TO EXERCISE THEIR LEGITIMATE RIGHTS."

2. QUESTIONED ON THE MATTER, QUAI DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR THE LEVANT SERVANT SAID FRENCH POLICY IS UNCHANGED. HE SAID THAT MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE U.S., HAVE REFERRED AT THE UN TO PALESTINIAN "ASPIRATIONS" AND THAT "LEGITIMATE RIGHTS" IS A VAGUE, ALMOST MEANINGLESS TERM IN FRENCH. THE LANGUAGE USED WAS A COMBINATION OF FRENCH AND BAHRAINI DRAFTS AND THE BAHRAINIS TRIED AT NO POINT TO MAKE THE FRENCH CHANGE THEIR CURRENT POSITION ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI QUESTION. HE DISMISSED THE REUTERS ACCOUNT AS NONSENSE.

3. COMMENT: WHILE WE HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DIRECTION OF FRENCH POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, WE CONCUR IN SERVANT'S VIEW THAT ON THIS OCCASION, AT LEAST, NO MOVEMENT WAS INTENDED.
RUSH

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, COMMUNIQUE, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976PARIS06606
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760083-0193
From: PARIS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760395/aaaadfri.tel
Line Count: 78
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 APR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19 APR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <20 APR 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRANCO-BAHRAIN COMMUNIQUE
TAGS: PFOR, FR, XF, BA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006